



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Government Center

June 8, 2023

Rebecca Johnson
Transmission and Power Markets Advisor
Western Area Power Administration
12155 West Alameda Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80228-8213
Submitted VIA Email to spp-tribalcomments@wapa.gov

Dear Ms. Johnson,

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (Nation) is a federally recognized sovereign Indian Tribe located in and around Mayetta, Kansas. The Nation submits these comments in support of WAPA's pursuit of final negotiations regarding membership in the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Regional Transmission Organization. The Nation is hopeful that this expansion into the SPP will help lead to a direct delivery of the Nation's WAPA allocation to ultimately reduce costs and promote efficiency and resilience in the process.

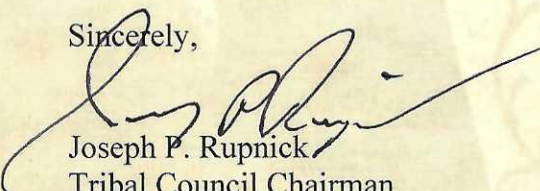
In 2002, WAPA's administer approved final allocations of the electric power generated from the Loveland Area Projects, which included an allocation to the Nation. The Nation subsequently entered into a contract with WAPA for the delivery of the Nation's WAPA allocation, beginning on October 1, 2004. However, due to transmission infrastructure limitations, the Nation's WAPA allocation is currently delivered and executed by the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) through a benefit crediting agreement for the Nation to benefit from the power and energy made available by WAPA.

Although the Nation receives its WAPA allocation through the benefit crediting arrangement with MEAN, this arrangement leads to additional costs for the Nation that many WAPA wholesale customers do not have to pay, thus offsetting the benefit of receiving wholesale power. With WAPA potentially expanding into the SPP, we are optimistic about new alternatives to receive our WAPA allocation directly which would support the least-cost power objective of the allocation.

We also thank WAPA for hosting the Tribal consultation meeting on May 12, 2023. The Nation strongly encourages WAPA continue to host these meetings when tribal interests are at stake.

Please contact my office with any questions or comments at the information listed below.

Sincerely,


Joseph P. Rupnick
Tribal Council Chairman
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

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